

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A metal stud wall and method of assembling the same are characterized by a stud bridging/spacing member generally having at least three longitudinally spaced apart notches for receiving and engaging therein a web of a metal stud. The notches extend at an incline to the longitudinal axis of the elongate member. In the assembly of a metal stud wall having a row of metal studs each having at least two flanges interconnected by a web, the stud bridging/spacing member is inserted through aligned openings in the webs of three or more studs and the webs are engaged in the notches to position and hold the metal studs at a prescribed spacing. Successive bridging/spacing members may be inserted through further studs and overlapped with the preceding bridging/spacing member, and engaging a common stud, to position and hold the studs at the prescribed spacing. The stud bridging/spacing member not only spaces the studs, but reinforces the studs against deflection and rotation caused by transverse, axial and lateral loading.